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US INTERVENTION IN LATIN AMERICA -- Santiago, Vistazo, 13 Jul 65

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[The following are excerpts from a feature article by
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To the US, a great general is not worth as much as a good spy. The first receives epaulets and medals; the second, dollars without limitation. The Central Intelligence Agency is more powerful than the Department of State; the Pentagon rules the latter, but is subordinate to the CIA. Behind them, as supreme power, is Wall Street and its magnates of the petroleum, copper, press and telecommunications industries, United Fruit, and such sinister organizations as the Ku Klux Klan and the John Birch Society.

The trio operates in perfect harmony; Wall Street sets the tasks, the CIA moves its men, and the Pentagon invades.

The Russian revolution was a signal of alarm to the US magnates. The US Government immediately made use of its intelligence services.

In the 22 December 1917 issue of Pravda it was reported: "The most outstanding representatives of the US are involved in the Kaledin plot; they have taken all measures to provide assistance. Under the cover of a Red Cross train headed for the southwestern front, US officials Anderson and Perkins in Yassin [Iasi?] and their accomplices, Russian officers Kalpashnikov and Verblyunskiy, attempted to send dozens of automobiles and many arms to the Don for Kaledin's use."

In March 1918, the US troops participated in the occupation of the northern and eastern extremities of Russia. DeWitt Poole, US consul, was the chief of the so-called "Lockhart plot." Izvestiya of 6 November 1918 reported extensively about this conspiracy. British diplomat Reilly had the mission to divide the Red Army through corruption, sabotage, and obstruction of the shipment of foodstuffs; Vertamont, a French official, did the dirty work -- explosions at the Soviets, fires at the grocery warehouses, etc.; US commercial agent Colomatiano was responsible for the organization of espionage, corruption of high officials, and organizing acts against open cities by terrorists disguised in uniforms with markings of the Red Army.

The Office of Strategic Services (old CIA) founded a series of international organizations (very similar to the OAS, Alliance for Progress, etc.), which were supported by a dozen puppet governments. Among these was the National Committee for the Struggle for

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS DIVISION
SP-904

a Free Europe, headed by Grew, former Undersecretary of State. Among the founders of that organization was Dwight Eisenhower. The Committee for Liberation from Bolshevism was organized by Howland Sarglant [sic], a high official of the Department of State and one of the trusted agents of the intelligence services of his country.

In 1951, then-President Harry Truman issued the Mutual Security Law which set aside 100 million dollars annually to finance "any person selected, having residence in the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Albania, etc., or fugitive from those countries, who enters armed forces units supporting NATO, or for other purposes."

[There follows a chronological history of alleged US interventions in Latin America, from 1831 to 1965].

Weakened in its world position, the US looked for new horizons in Latin America, strengthening its enormous monopolies, established particularly in Central America during the late 19th Century. During 1929-1933, the US acquired "holdings" in many countries, taking advantage of the corruption of some rulers. Nevertheless, a danger on the horizon bothered Wall Street investors: the popular movements acquired increasingly greater vitality, and most of the small, subordinate countries fought to remove the stain of colonialism or semi-colonialism. With the establishment of the "New Policy" (New Deal) and the Good Neighbor Policy, the US pretended to "lighten" its hand.

Roosevelt established the Good Neighbor Policy, and doubtlessly was guided by sincere desires for peace. But behind Roosevelt was Sumner Welles, who for many years had the Big Stick Policy in his hands as Chief of the Latin American Affairs Division of the State Department.

This increase in political penetration brought with it a scientifically prepared plan for penetration and control of the people. In those years the Office of Strategic Services flooded Latin America with spies. In Central America they interfered slightly less than shamelessly; in Latin [South?] America, on the other hand, they operated with secrecy.

[There follows a country-by country breakdown of US political "interference" in Latin America].

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS DIVISION
SP-904

Wall Street is the nervous system of the US Government. The great economic activity of Latin America is dependent on Wall Street. Statistics from Wall Street indicate that their [US private?] investments in Latin America at the end of 1964 amounted to 17 billion dollars. During that period, private US investment on the continent included the following: Venezuela, 2,087,000,000 dollars; Brazil, 1,128,000,000 dollars; Mexico, 907 million dollars; Argentina, 1,130,000,000 dollars; Chile, 768 million dollars; Panama, 920 million dollars; Colombia, 530 million dollars; Guatemala, 178 million dollars; Honduras, 110 million dollars; and Uruguay, 70 million dollars.

These exorbitant investments, returning interests never revealed but which are considered to be sky high, require a powerful political-economic-military machinery to guard it.

The Pentagon is ready to defend with blood and force of arms the interests of the bosses of the great monopolies of the US.

The role of the Pentagon goes far beyond the sphere of military discipline. The expenses made public are approximately 1.9 million [sic] dollars. The Pentagon has a propaganda corps of 530 "public relations" men and a team of 1.2 million civilian workers. Auxiliary women's corps are included.

The Pentagon publishes many periodicals, all of a political nature and directed by obstinate "ultras" or Fascists, among them Robert Welch, president of the John Birch Society, which also makes anti-Communist and pro-Fascist films available. Among other publications are The Airman, All Hands, Army Aviation Digest, Army Information Digest, Navy Operation News, and thousands of pamphlets intended to create an awareness of the anti-Communist and anti-popular movements. The accounts that the Pentagon keeps are for its own use, and this has caused serious friction with the White House. Not long ago the disappearance of 40,000 dollars from the "confidential funds of the Pentagon" was announced. The matter was buried after a brief publicity campaign.

The Pentagon maintains 2,300 military bases in the world, chiefly in the Pacific area.

The Central Intelligence Agency has been a headache for the State Department. Established in 1947, it at present has more than 200,000 agents distributed throughout the world, in addition to "collaborators" from other nations who also receive a nice monthly income.

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS DIVISION
SP-904

The CIA is a veritable human cocktail. In it are professionals, tradesmen, workers, high military chiefs, and ordinary sergeants, women, old people having an unassuming appearance, etc.

Its budget is small (500 million dollars), but it has free access [to funds] in matters of "national interest." Thus, its expenditures are calculated in billions of dollars, invested principally in the shady business of buying souls.

Allan Dulles, one of its "ultras," had within his hands great responsibilities...and enormous failures: the landing in the Bay of Pigs, ignorance of Nasser's plans with respect to the Suez Canal, and his underestimation of the missile capacity of the Soviet Union.

Dulles was also criticized for paying the mercenaries of the Bay of Pigs (25 dollars daily) directly.

The central CIA office has a sinister appearance and is located on the outskirts of Washington. It is an enormous building of grayish-white concrete.

Everyone knows that the CIA is there, but there is no sign on the building to indicate it. The people of the US call it "the deep, dark depths."

The organization, presently directed by John McCone, controls the National Security Council, the Army, Navy, and Air Force secret services, the FBI, the weapons industries, the Atomic Energy Commission, etc.

The entire property is surrounded by wire, and the building is topped with antennas, radar equipment, etc. The laboratories are equipped with the strangest things: a ball point pen that writes perfectly and appears to be nothing but a pen but is actually a pistol. The "Nut" electronic brain catalogs, selects, locates, and computes a fantastic amount of information that is received daily in the offices of this sinister organization. McCone, as well as his cohorts, are magnates connected with large enterprises.

The CIA is more informed about what happens in our country than the Chileans themselves. Their agents operate surreptitiously in political, intellectual, military, religious, labor, peasant, and other activities.

During the 1964 presidential elections, a dilemma confronted the CIA and the Pentagon: either they had to make an effort that Duran or Frei would win, or if Salvador Allende were elected, they

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS DIVISION
SP-904

would have had to proceed with direct, armed intervention. This type of threat was heard repeatedly in the Foreign Ministry and Government circles. Joseph Jova, advisory minister [deputy chief of mission] of the US Embassy, obeyed CIA's orders more than those of the State Department. Proof of this was that he was always in command over Ambassador Charles Cole, who played a protocol role.

CIA agents toured the country from north to south; it was CIA agents that prevented the withdrawal of Duran's candidacy; CIA agents who forced the Chilean government to break with Cuba during the pre-electoral period; CIA agents who inundated Chile with propaganda made in the US in the most impudent intervention in our country's history.

As is customary, the CIA has established a series of organizations that are mysterious in themselves: the International Development Foundation, whose purpose "on paper" is to organize agricultural cooperatives and provide housing for the peasants. The Peace Corps follows it, with surreptitious penetration in the Rural Education Institute. According to the CIA, Communist penetration in the country "is alarming."

Plan Camelot, which the US has now with the greatest candor in the world declared "cancelled," will continue. It will change in form but not in substance. The ultra-rightist organizations of Chile are advised by members of the US Embassy and by foreigners who, like Mr. Jara of Gonzalo Drago, speak in this way: "Me not Chilean. Me not know the US."